

Categorical Exclusion Documentation

Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management, Spokane District
1103 North Fancher Road
Spokane Valley, WA 99212

A. Background

BLM Office: Border Field Office

Lease/Serial/Case File No.: SRP OR-135-08-004

NEPA Log Number: OR-135-08-CX-009

Proposed Action Title: BCH Poker Ride SRP

Location of Proposed Action: Fishtrap, Lincoln and Spokane Counties, WA. 21N, 39E, Sec. 1,2,11,12; 22N, 39E, Sec. 25, 35,36; 22N, 40E, Sec. 19, 30,

Description of Proposed Action: The five-year competitive event Special Recreation Permit application by the Inland Empire Chapter of Back Country Horsemen is to hold an annual Equestrian Poker Ride at Fishtrap, on May 9th - 10th for 2008 including set up, the event, and clean-up. Approximately 250 riders and horses are expected, plus an additional 50 workers (most of them on foot) who help insure safety and register participants, and no spectators. This event has been held in the same location using the same general operating plan for a number of years, and to date the group has proved to be good stewards of the land. The staging area will not exceed 3 acres.

- Riders must stay on existing trails.
- These trails are multi-use and may have other hikers, horseback riders or mountain bikers - event participants must respect the rights of other recreationists to use the trail. BLM will not issue other SRP's for activities the same day as the event, May 10th the first year.
- All participants must respect wildlife and act in a manner to avoid stressing animals. Organizers must be willing to change the event route to bypass any protected nesting sites and/or sensitive plant locations if required by BLM.
- The permit holder will pack out all trash after the event, spread manure at the main campsite and registration area, remove straw and hay piles, and fill in any large holes created by the horses.
- Cattle may be grazing in one or more pastures along the event route (although not expected in 2008). One or more gate persons must be present during the event, to open and close any gates so as to keep cows from escaping their pasture as participants pass through. At the end of the event, the gate person(s) will make sure these gates are securely closed. Additionally, all other gates opened at the beginning of the event, where no cows are pastured, must be closed after the event ends. All participants will ride in a manner that will not disturb livestock.
- Approximately 15 vehicles with campers/trailers will arrive on May 9th to camp at a campsite southwest of the Miller Ranch house, in the area where a water hydrant and corrals are located.

-Single file vehicle/trailer parking for the event is stretched out along the old highway southwest of the Miller Ranch house, and the main registration area is located nearby in the parking lot near the house.

-Chemical toilets will be located at the registration area, at the camping area, and at station #4 where the trail crosses Fishtrap Road.

Failure to comply with stipulations could result in denying a future Special Recreation Permit.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan Name: Spokane Resource Management Plan

Date Approved/Amended: Approved 1987/Amended 1992

☒ *Option 1 (conforms with LUP):* The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decision(s): Chapter 2; General Management Objectives: 7. Manage public lands and keep access routes open for a variety of recreational opportunities/experiences, including both motorized and nonmotorized recreation activities.

OR

☐ *(Option 2: not explicitly provided for in the LUP)* The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP, even though it is not specifically provided for, because it is clearly consistent with the following LUP decision(s) (*objectives, terms, and conditions*):

C. Compliance with NEPA:

The proposed action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 11.9H. (1)

This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM 2 apply, as shown in the following table:

CX EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES DOCUMENTATION			
The proposed categorical exclusion action will:		YES	NO
2.1	Have significant impacts on public health or safety.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.2	Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

2.3 Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)].	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.4 Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.5 Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.6 Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.7 Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by either the bureau or office.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.8 Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
A listed (Threatened) plant species, Spalding's catchfly, occurs within the proposed event area. Occurrences of this plant have been mapped on the property. A BLM botanist has determined that the event route, which is primarily on established roads and trails, avoids locations where this plant occurs, so there will be no significant impacts on the plant.		
2.9 Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.10 Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.11 Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.12 Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

F: Signature

Authorizing Official: ____/S/ James Scott Pavey____ Date: ____4/17/08____
(Signature)

Name: Scott Pavey

Title: Acting Field Manager, Border Resource Area

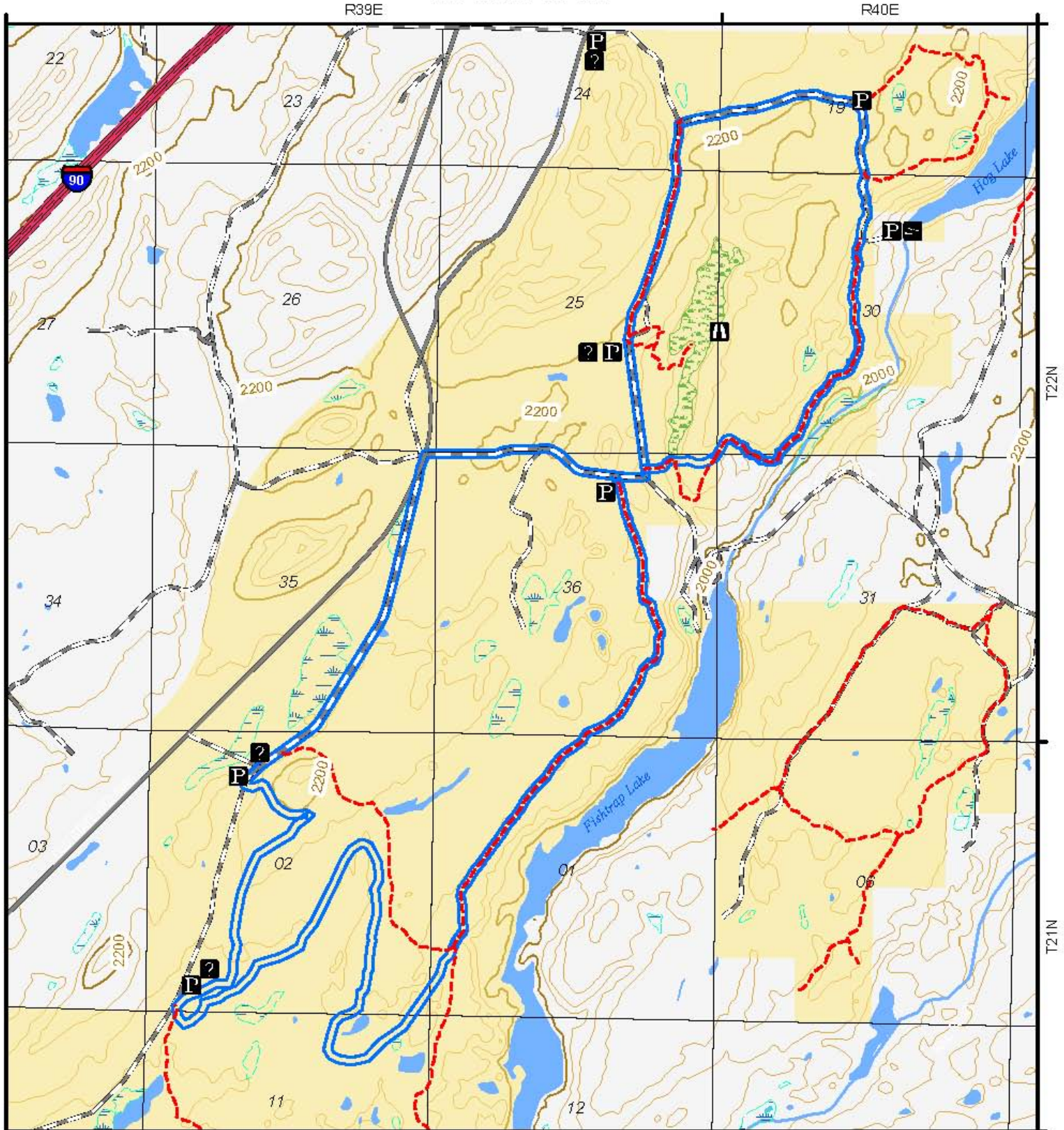
G. Contact Person

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact Steve A. Smith, Outdoor Recreation Planner, Border Resource Area, Steve_A_Smith@blm.gov, 509-536-1219

Note: A separate decision document must be prepared for the action covered by the CX.

Back Country Horseman Poker Ride

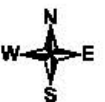
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- BLM Land
- P Parking
- W Watchable Wildlife
- A Event Camping Area
- Light-duty Road
- Unimproved Road
- Other or Unknown Road
- Trails
- Approximate Course
- Smick Meadow
- Wetland
- Water Body
- Lake
- Major Streams



0 1,250 2,500 3,750 5,000
Feet



No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual or aggregate use with other data. Original data were compiled from various sources and may be updated without notice.